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P/M/14

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

In re Application of:
Plantenga, F. et al.

Serial No: 09/540,400

Filing Date: March 31, 2000

For: PROCESS FOR EFFECTING ULTRA-DEEP
HDS OF HYDROCARBON FEEDSTOCKS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith find the document(s) related to this application:

1. TRANSMITTAL LETTER IN DUPLICATE;
2. RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.111;
3. DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.132;
4. CERTIFICATE OF MAILING; and
5. POSTCARD

Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 of:
 One Month (\$110.00) Two Months (\$ 420.00)
 Three Months (\$950.00) Four Months (\$ 1480.00)

The total fee believed due is \$420.00. Please charge this amount and any other fees which may be due (including filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17) to Deposit Account No. 01-1350. If an extension of time is required but has not been requested above, Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time sufficient for the attached document(s) to be timely. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis A. Morris
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 28,100

11/14/2003 HALI11 00000004 011350 09540400

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Akzo Nobel Inc.
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on November 10, 2003

Vickie Purcell



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Plantenga, F. et al.

Serial No.: 09/540,400

Filing Date: March 31, 2000

For: Process for Effecting Ultra-Deep HDS of
Hydrocarbon Feedstocks

: Docket: ACH 2696
: Examiner: N. Preisich
: Group Art Unit: 1764

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on November 10, 2003

Vickie Purcell
Vickie Purcell

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Sir,

This is in response to an Office Action mailed on July 7, 2003, rejecting instant claims 1-8, which are all the claims pending in the present application.

Remarks

Applicants first apologize for not providing the Declaration of Dr. Plantenga in the previous response. This Declaration was cited in the response as illustrating the surprising and unexpected discovery of the superior performance of a catalyst comprising molybdenum and nickel in ultra-deep HDS. The Declaration in fact provides a detailed discussion of the history of ultra-deep HDS, the chemistry of ultra-deep HDS as compared to conventional HDS and the surprising discovery that led to the present invention.